OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

After reviewing data collected from **Lake Waukewan, Meredith,** the program coordinators have made the following observations and recommendations.

Thank you for your continued hard work sampling the lake this year! Your monitoring group sampled the deep spot **three** times this year and has done so for many years! As you know, conducting multiple sampling events each year enables DES to more accurately detect water quality changes. Keep up the good work!

If your monitoring group's sampling events this year were limited due to not having enough time to pick-up or drop-off samples at the Limnology Center in Concord, please remember the Plymouth State University Center for the Environment Satellite Laboratory is open in Plymouth. This laboratory was established to serve the large number of lakes in the greater North region of the state. This laboratory is inspected by DES and operates under a DES approved quality assurance plan. We encourage your monitoring group to utilize this laboratory next summer for all sampling events, except for the annual DES biologist visit. To find out more about the Center for the Environment Satellite Laboratory, and/or to schedule dates to pick up bottles and equipment, please call Aaron Johnson, laboratory manager, at (603) 535-3269.

Volunteers from your lake participated in the Lake Host™ Program this year. The Lake Host™ Program is funded through DES and Federal grants. The program was developed in 2002 by NH LAKES and NHDES to educate and prevent boaters from spreading exotic aquatic plants to lakes in New Hampshire. Since then, the number of participating lakes and volunteers has doubled, the number of boats inspected has tripled, and the number of "saves" (exotic plants discovered) has increased from four in 2002 to a total of 297 in 2009. The program is invaluable in educating boaters and protecting NH's waterbodies from exotic aquatic plant infestations, thereby preventing recreational hazards, property value decline, aquatic ecosystem decline, aesthetic issues, and saving costly remediation efforts. Lake Host™ staff discovered the following aquatic vegetation entering or leaving your lake in 2009:

Clasping leaf pondweed (native)

Great work! We encourage volunteers to continue participating in the Lake Host™ Program to protect the future of your lake.

FIGURE INTERPRETATION

CHLOROPHYLL-A

- **Figure 1 and Table 1:** Figure 1 in Appendix A shows the historical and current year chlorophyll-a concentration in the water column. Table 1 in Appendix B lists the maximum, minimum, and mean concentration for each sampling year that the lake has been monitored through VLAP.

  Chlorophyll-a, a pigment found in plants, is an indicator of the algal abundance. Algae (also known as phytoplankton) are typically microscopic, chlorophyll producing plants that are naturally occurring in lake ecosystems. The chlorophyll-a concentration measured in the water gives biologists an estimation of the algal concentration or lake productivity. **The median summer chlorophyll-a concentration for New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is 4.58 mg/m^3.**

  MAYO STATION
  The current year data (the top graph) show that the chlorophyll-a concentration ***increased*** from **July** to **August**, and then ***decreased*** from **August** to **September**.

  The historical data (the bottom graph) show that the **2009** chlorophyll-a mean is ***much less than*** the state median and is ***slightly less than*** the similar lake median. For more information on the similar lake median, refer to Appendix F.

  Overall, the statistical analysis of the historical data (the bottom graph) shows that the mean annual chlorophyll-a concentration has ***not significantly changed*** since monitoring began. Specifically, the mean annual chlorophyll-a concentration has ***fluctuated between approximately 1.45 and 4.49 mg/m^3,*** but has ***not continually increased or decreased*** since **1993**. Please refer to Appendix E for a detailed statistical analysis explanation and data print-out.

  WINONA STATION
  The current year data (the top graph) show that the chlorophyll-a concentration ***increased*** from **July** to **August**, and then ***decreased*** from **August** to **September**.

The historical data (the bottom graph) show that the **2009** chlorophyll-a mean is ***much less than*** the state median and is ***slightly less than*** the similar lake median. For more information on the similar lake median, refer to Appendix F.

Overall, the statistical analysis of the historical data (the bottom graph) shows that the mean annual chlorophyll-a concentration has ***not significantly changed*** since monitoring began. Specifically, the mean annual chlorophyll-a concentration has ***fluctuated between approximately 1.43 and 3.74 mg/m³,*** but has ***not continually increased or decreased*** since **1993**. Please refer to Appendix E for a detailed statistical analysis explanation and data print-out.

While algae are naturally present in all lakes and ponds, an excessive or increasing amount of any type is not welcomed. In freshwater lakes and ponds, phosphorus is the nutrient that algae typically depend upon for growth in New Hampshire lakes. Algal concentrations may increase as nonpoint sources of phosphorus from the watershed increase, or as in-lake phosphorus sources increase. Therefore, it is extremely important for volunteer monitors to continually educate all watershed residents about management practices that can be implemented to minimize phosphorus loading to surface waters.

TRANSPARENCY

- **Figure 2 and Tables 3a and 3b:** Figure 2 in Appendix A shows the historical and current year data for transparency with and without the use of a viewscope. Table 3a in Appendix B lists the maximum, minimum and mean transparency data without the use of a viewscope and Table 3b lists the maximum, minimum and mean transparency data with the use of a viewscope for each year that the lake has been monitored through VLAP.

  Volunteer monitors use the Secchi disk, a 20 cm disk with alternating black and white quadrants, to measure how far a person can see into the water. Transparency, a measure of water clarity, can be affected by the amount of algae and sediment in the water, as well as the natural lake color of the water. **The median summer transparency for New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is 3.2 meters.**

  MAYO STATION
  The current year data (the top graph) show that the non-viewscope in-lake transparency ***increased gradually*** from **July** to **September**.

  The historical data (the bottom graph) show that the **2009** mean non-viewscope transparency is ***much greater than*** the state median and is ***slightly greater than*** the similar lake median. Please refer to Appendix F for more information about the similar lake median.

The current year data (the top graph) show that the viewscope in-lake transparency ***increased gradually*** from **July** to **September**. The transparency measured with the viewscope was generally ***greater than*** the transparency measured without the viewscope this summer. A comparison of the transparency readings taken with and without the use of a viewscope shows that the viewscope typically increases the depth to which the Secchi disk can be seen into the lake, particularly on sunny and windy days. We recommend that your group measure Secchi disk transparency with and without the viewscope on each sampling event.

It is important to note that viewscope transparency data are not compared to a New Hampshire median or similar lake median. This is because lake transparency with the use of a viewscope has not been historically measured by DES. At some point in the future, the New Hampshire and similar lake medians for viewscope transparency will be calculated and added to the appropriate graphs.

Overall, the statistical analysis of the historical data (the bottom graph) shows that the mean annual in-lake non-viewscope transparency has ***not significantly changed*** (either *increased* or *decreased*) since monitoring began. Specifically, the mean annual in-lake transparency has remained ***relatively stable, ranging between approximately 5.03 and 7.53 meters*** since **1993**. Please refer to Appendix E for the statistical analysis explanation and data print-out.

WINONA STATION
The current year data (the top graph) show that the non-viewscope in-lake transparency ***increased*** from **July** to **September**.

The historical data (the bottom graph) show that the **2009** mean non-viewscope transparency is ***much greater than*** the state median and is ***slightly greater than*** the similar lake median, and is the highest (best) mean transparency since monitoring began. Please refer to Appendix F for more information about the similar lake median.

The current year data (the top graph) show that the viewscope in-lake transparency ***increased gradually*** from **July** to **September**. The transparency measured with the viewscope was generally ***greater than*** the transparency measured without the viewscope this summer. A comparison of the transparency readings taken with and without the use of a viewscope shows that the viewscope typically increases the depth to which the Secchi disk can be seen into the lake, particularly on sunny and windy days. We recommend that your group measure Secchi disk transparency with and without the viewscope on each sampling event.

It is important to note that viewscope transparency data are not compared to a New Hampshire median or similar lake median. This is because lake transparency with the use of a viewscope has not been historically measured by DES. At some point in the future, the New Hampshire and similar lake medians for viewscope transparency will be calculated and added to the appropriate graphs.

Overall, the statistical analysis of the historical data (the bottom graph) shows that the mean annual in-lake non-viewscope transparency has ***not significantly changed*** (either *increased* or *decreased*) since monitoring began. Specifically, the mean annual in-lake transparency has remained ***relatively stable, ranging between approximately 5.10 and 7.38 meters*** since **1993**. Please refer to Appendix E for the statistical analysis explanation and data print-out.

Typically, high intensity rainfall causes sediment-laden stormwater runoff to flow into surface waters, thus increasing turbidity and decreasing clarity. Efforts to stabilize stream banks, lake and pond shorelines, disturbed soils within the watershed, and especially dirt roads located immediately adjacent to the edge of tributaries and the lake or pond should continue on an annual basis. Guides to best management practices that can be implemented to reduce, and possibly even eliminate, nonpoint source pollutants, are available from DES upon request.

TOTAL PHOSPHORUS

- **Figure 3 and Table 8:** The graphs in Figure 3 in Appendix A show the amount of epilimnetic (upper layer) phosphorus and hypolimnetic (lower layer) phosphorus; the inset graphs show current year data. Table 8 in Appendix B lists the annual maximum, minimum, and median concentration for each deep spot layer and each tributary since the lake has been sampled through VLAP.

  Phosphorus is typically the limiting nutrient for vascular aquatic plant and algae growth in New Hampshire's lakes and ponds. Excessive phosphorus in a lake or pond can lead to increased plant and algal growth over time. **The median summer total phosphorus concentration in the epilimnion (upper layer) of New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is 12 ug/L. The median summer phosphorus concentration in the hypolimnion (lower layer) is 14 ug/L.**

MAYO STATION
The current year data for the epilimnion (the top inset graph) show that the phosphorus concentration ***increased slightly*** from **July** to **August**, and then ***decreased*** from **August** to **September**.

The historical data show that the **2009** mean epilimnetic phosphorus concentration is ***much less than*** the state median and is ***slightly less than*** the similar lake median. Refer to Appendix F for more information about the similar lake median.

The current year data for the hypolimnion (the bottom inset graph) show that the phosphorus concentration ***increased*** from **July** to **August**, and then ***decreased*** from **August** to **September**.

The historical data show that the **2009** mean hypolimnetic phosphorus concentration is ***slightly less than*** the state and similar lake medians. Please refer to Appendix F for more information about the similar lake median.

Overall, the statistical analysis of the historical data shows that the epilimnetic (upper layer) phosphorus concentration has ***not significantly changed*** (either *increased* or *decreased*) since monitoring began. Specifically, the mean annual epilimnetic phosphorus concentration has remained ***relatively stable, ranging between approximately 4 and 8 ug/L*** since **1993**. Please refer to Appendix E for the statistical analysis explanation and data print-out.

Overall, the statistical analysis of the historical data shows that the hypolimnetic (lower layer) phosphorus concentration has ***not significantly changed*** since monitoring began. Specifically, the mean annual hypolimnetic phosphorus concentration has ***fluctuated between approximately 7 and 19 ug/L*** since **1993**. Please refer to Appendix E for the detailed statistical analysis explanation and data print-out.

WINONA STATION
The current year data for the epilimnion (the top inset graph) show that the phosphorus concentration ***increased slightly*** from **July** to **August**, and then ***remained stable*** from **August** to **September**.

The historical data show that the **2009** mean epilimnetic phosphorus concentration is ***less than*** the state median and is ***slightly greater than*** the similar lake median. Refer to Appendix F for more information about the similar lake median.

The current year data for the hypolimnion (the bottom inset graph) show that the phosphorus concentration ***increased*** from **July** to **September**.

The historical data show that the **2009** mean hypolimnetic phosphorus concentration is ***slightly less than*** the state median and is ***slightly greater than*** the similar lake median. Please refer to Appendix F for more information about the similar lake median.

The hypolimnetic (lower layer) turbidity sample was ***elevated*** on the **September** sampling event (**3.17 NTUs**). This suggests that the lake bottom may have been disturbed by the anchor or by the Kemmerer Bottle while sampling and/or that the lake bottom is covered by an easily disturbed thick organic layer of sediment. When the lake bottom is disturbed, phosphorus rich sediment is released into the water column. When collecting the hypolimnion sample, make sure that there is no sediment in the Kemmerer Bottle before filling the sample bottles.

Overall, the statistical analysis of the historical data shows that the epilimnetic (upper layer) phosphorus concentration has ***not significantly changed*** (either *increased* or *decreased*) since monitoring began. Specifically, the mean annual epilimnetic phosphorus concentration has remained ***relatively stable, ranging between approximately 4 and 9 ug/L*** since **1993**. Please refer to Appendix E for the statistical analysis explanation and data print-out.

Overall, the statistical analysis of the historical data shows that the hypolimnetic (lower layer) phosphorus concentration has ***not significantly changed*** since monitoring began. Specifically, the mean annual hypolimnetic phosphorus concentration has ***fluctuated between approximately 6 and 23 ug/L*** since **1993**. Please refer to Appendix E for the detailed statistical analysis explanation and data print-out.

One of the most important approaches to reducing phosphorus loading to a waterbody is to continually educate watershed residents about the watershed sources of phosphorus and how excessive phosphorus loading can negatively impact the ecology and the recreational, economical, and ecological value of lakes and ponds.

TABLE INTERPRETATION

- **Table 2: Phytoplankton**
  Table 2 in Appendix B lists the current and historical phytoplankton and/or cyanobacteria observed in the lake. Specifically, this table

lists the three most dominant phytoplankton and/or cyanobacteria observed in the sample and their relative abundance in the sample.

The dominant phytoplankton and/or cyanobacteria observed in the **Mayo and Winona station July** samples were ***Asterionella* (Diatom)**, ***Rhizosolenia* (Diatom)**, and ***Chrysosphaerella* (Golden-Brown)**.

Phytoplankton populations undergo a natural succession during the growing season. Please refer to the "Biological Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation regarding seasonal plankton succession. Diatoms and golden-brown algae populations are typical in New Hampshire's less productive lakes and ponds.

Also, a cyanobacteria bloom occurred in the lake in **August**. Samples were collected and returned to the DES Limnology Center for analysis. A **lake warning** was issued on **8/24/2009** notifying the public of the presence of potentially toxic cyanobacteria. The cyanobacteria were identified as ***Anabaena, Microcystis and Oscillatoria***, all potentially toxic cyanobacteria. Samples were collected regularly throughout the advisory period and the advisory was removed on **8/28/2009** after cyanobacteria concentrations fell to acceptable levels.

Cyanobacteria can reach nuisance levels when phosphorus loading from the watershed to surface waters is increased and favorable environmental conditions occur, such as a period of sunny, warm weather.

The presence of cyanobacteria serves as a reminder of the lake's delicate balance. Watershed residents should continue to act proactively to reduce nutrient loading to the pond by eliminating fertilizer use on lawns, keeping the pond shoreline natural, re-vegetating cleared areas within the watershed, and properly maintaining septic systems and roads.

In addition, residents should also observe the pond in September and October during the time of fall turnover (lake mixing) to document any algal blooms that may occur. Cyanobacteria have the ability to regulate their depth in the water column by producing or releasing gas from vesicles. However, occasionally lake mixing can affect their buoyancy and cause them to rise to the surface and bloom. Wind and currents tend to "pile" cyanobacteria into scums that accumulate in one section of the pond. If a fall bloom occurs, please collect a sample in any clean jar or bottle and contact the VLAP Coordinator.

- **Table 4: pH**
  Table 4 in Appendix B presents the in-lake and tributary current year and historical pH data.

  pH is measured on a logarithmic scale of 0 (acidic) to 14 (basic). pH is important to the survival and reproduction of fish and other aquatic life. A pH below 6.0 typically limits the growth and reproduction of fish. A pH between 6.0 and 7.0 is ideal for fish. The median pH value for the epilimnion (upper layer) in New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is **6.6**, which indicates that the state surface waters are slightly acidic. For a more detailed explanation regarding pH, please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report.

  The mean pH at the **Mayo Station** deep spot this year ranged from **6.14** in the hypolimnion to **6.91** in the epilimnion, which means that the hypolimnion is ***slightly acidic*** and the epilimnion is ***approximately neutral***.

  The mean pH at the **Winona Station** deep spot this year ranged from **6.21** in the hypolimnion to **6.87** in the epilimnion, which means that the hypolimnion is ***slightly acidic*** and the epilimnion is ***approximately neutral***.

  It is important to point out that the hypolimnetic (lower layer) pH was ***lower (more acidic)*** than in the epilimnion (upper layer). This increase in acidity near the lake bottom is likely due to the decomposition of organic matter and the release of acidic by-products into the water column.

  Due to the state's abundance of granite bedrock in the state and acid deposition received from snowmelt, rainfall, and atmospheric particulates, there is little that can be feasibly done to effectively increase lake pH.

- **Table 5: Acid Neutralizing Capacity**
  Table 5 in Appendix B presents the current year and historical epilimnetic ANC for each year the lake has been monitored through VLAP.

  Buffering capacity (ANC) describes the ability of a solution to resist changes in pH by neutralizing the acidic input. The median ANC value for New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is **4.8 mg/L**, which indicates that many lakes and ponds in the state are at least "moderately vulnerable" to acidic inputs. For a more detailed explanation about ANC, please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report.

The mean acid neutralizing capacity (ANC) of the **Mayo Station** epilimnion (upper layer) was **7.4 mg/L**. The mean ANC of the **Winona Station** epilimnion was **7.2 mg/L**. This indicates that the lake is ***moderately vulnerable*** to acidic inputs.

- **Table 6: Conductivity**

  Table 6 in Appendix B presents the current and historical conductivity values for tributaries and in-lake data. Conductivity is the numerical expression of the ability of water to carry an electric current, which is determined by the number of negatively charged ions from metals, salts, and minerals in the water column. The median conductivity value for New Hampshire's lakes and ponds is **40.0 uMhos/cm**. For a more detailed explanation, please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report.

  The mean annual epilimnetic conductivity at the **Mayo Station** deep spot this year was **94.97 uMhos/cm**. The mean annual epilimnetic conductivity at the **Winona Station** deep spot this year was **95.87 uMhos/cm**. This is ***greater than*** the state median.

  The conductivity has ***increased*** in the lake and tributaries since monitoring began. In addition, the in-lake conductivity is ***greater than*** the state median. Typically, elevated conductivity indicates the influence of pollutant sources associated with human activities. These sources include failed or marginally functioning septic systems, agricultural runoff, stormwater runoff, and road runoff which contains road salt during the spring snow-melt. New development in the watershed can alter runoff patterns and expose new soil and bedrock areas, which could also contribute to increasing conductivity. In addition, natural sources, such as iron and manganese deposits in bedrock, can influence conductivity.

  We recommend that your monitoring group conduct stream surveys and rain event sampling along tributaries with ***elevated*** conductivity to help identify the sources.

  For a detailed explanation on how to conduct rain event sampling and stream surveys, please refer to the 2002 VLAP Annual Report special topic article, which is posted on the VLAP website at ***http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/vlap/categories/publications.htm****, or contact the VLAP Coordinator.*

  It is likely that de-icing materials applied to nearby roadways during the winter months may be influencing the conductivity in the lake. In New Hampshire, the most commonly used de-icing material is salt (sodium chloride).

*Chloride sampling was conducted during **2009**. Please refer to the discussion of **Table 13** for more information.*

Therefore, we recommend that the **epilimnion** (upper layer) and **tributaries** continue to be sampled for chloride next year. This additional sampling may help us identify what areas of the watershed are contributing to the increasing in-lake conductivity.

Please note that the DES Limnology Center in Concord is able to conduct chloride analyses, free of charge. As a reminder, it is best to conduct chloride sampling in the spring as the snow is melting and during rain events.

- **Table 8: Total Phosphorus**
  Table 8 in Appendix B presents the current year and historical total phosphorus data for in-lake and tributary stations. Phosphorus is the nutrient that limits the algae's ability to grow and reproduce. Please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation.

  The phosphorus concentration in the **tributaries** was ***relatively low*** this year, which is good news. However, we recommend that your monitoring group sample the major tributaries to the lake during snow-melt and periodically during rainstorms to determine if the phosphorus concentration is ***elevated*** in the tributaries during these times. Typically, the majority of nutrient loading to a lake occurs in the spring during snow-melt and during intense rainstorms that cause soil erosion and surface runoff and within the watershed.

  *For a detailed explanation on how to conduct rain event sampling and stream surveys, please refer to the 2002 VLAP Annual Report special topic article, which is posted on the VLAP website at **http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/vlap/categories/publications.htm**, or contact the VLAP Coordinator.*

- **Table 9 and Table 10: Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature Data**
  Table 9 in Appendix B shows the dissolved oxygen/temperature profile(s) collected during **2009**. Table 10 in Appendix B shows the historical and current year dissolved oxygen concentration in the hypolimnion (lower layer). The presence of sufficient amounts of dissolved oxygen in the water column is vital to fish and amphibians and bottom-dwelling organisms. Please refer to the "Chemical

Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation.

The dissolved oxygen concentration was ***lower in the hypolimnion (lower layer) than in the epilimnion (upper layer)*** at the **Mayo and Winona Stations** deep spots on the **July** sampling event. As stratified lakes age, and as the summer progresses, oxygen typically becomes ***depleted*** in the hypolimnion by bacterial decomposition. Specifically, the reduction of hypolimnetic oxygen is primarily a result of biological organisms using oxygen to break down organic matter, both in the water column and particularly at the bottom of the lake or pond where the water meets the sediment. When the hypolimnetic oxygen concentration is depleted to less than 1 mg/L, the phosphorus that is normally bound up in the sediment may be re-released into the water column, a process referred to as ***internal phosphorus loading***.

Lower hypolimnetic oxygen levels are a sign of the lake's ***aging*** health. This year the DES biologist collected the dissolved oxygen profile in **July**. We recommend that the annual biologist visit for the **2010** sampling year be scheduled during **June** so that we can determine if oxygen is depleted in the hypolimnion ***earlier*** in the sampling year.

- **Table 11: Turbidity**
  Table 11 in Appendix B lists the current year and historical data for in-lake and tributary turbidity. Turbidity in the water is caused by suspended matter, such as clay, silt, and algae. Water clarity is strongly influenced by turbidity. Please refer to the "Other Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation.

  As discussed previously, the **Winona Station** hypolimnetic (lower layer) turbidity was ***elevated*** (**3.17 NTUs**) on the **September** sampling event. In addition, the hypolimnetic turbidity has been elevated on many sampling events during previous sampling years. This suggests that the lake bottom may have been disturbed by the anchor or by the Kemmerer Bottle while sampling and/or that the lake bottom is covered by an easily disturbed, thick organic layer of sediment. When the lake bottom is disturbed, phosphorus rich sediment is released into the water column. When collecting the hypolimnion sample, make sure that there is no sediment in the Kemmerer Bottle before filling the sample bottles.

- **Table 12: Bacteria (*E.coli*)**
  Table 12 in Appendix B lists the current year and historical data for

bacteria *(E.coli*) testing. *E. coli* is a normal bacterium found in the large intestine of humans and other warm-blooded animals. *E.coli* is used as an indicator organism because it is easily cultured and its presence in the water, in defined amounts, indicates that sewage **may** be present. If sewage is present in the water, potentially harmful disease-causing organisms **may** also be present.

Bacteria sampling was not conducted this year. If residents are concerned about sources of bacteria such as failing septic systems, animal waste, or waterfowl waste, it is best to conduct *E. coli* testing when the water table is high, when beach use is heavy, or immediately after rain events.

- **Table 13: Chloride**

Table 13 in Appendix B lists the current year and the historical data for chloride sampling. The chloride ion (Cl^-) is found naturally in some surfacewaters and groundwaters and in high concentrations in seawater. Research has shown that elevated chloride levels can be toxic to freshwater aquatic life. In order to protect freshwater aquatic life in New Hampshire, the state has adopted **acute and chronic** chloride criteria of **860 and 230 mg/L** respectively. The chloride content in New Hampshire lakes is naturally low, generally less than 2 mg/L in surface waters located in remote areas away from habitation. Higher values are generally associated with salted highways and, to a lesser extent, with septic inputs. Please refer to the "Chemical Monitoring Parameters" section of this report for a more detailed explanation.

The **Mayo Station epilimnion** was sampled for chloride during the **August and September** sampling events. The results were **18 and 20 mg/L**, which is ***much less than*** the state acute and chronic chloride criteria. However, this concentration is ***greater than*** what we would normally expect to measure in undisturbed New Hampshire surface waters.

The **Winona Station epilimnion** was sampled for chloride during the **July, August and September** sampling events. The results were **18 and 19 mg/L**, which is ***much less than*** the state acute and chronic chloride criteria. However, this concentration is ***greater than*** what we would normally expect to measure in undisturbed New Hampshire surface waters.

We recommend that your monitoring group continue to conduct chloride sampling in the epilimnion at the deep spots during the summer. This will establish a baseline of data that will assist your monitoring group and DES to determine lake quality trends in the future.

The **SE Golf Course** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **8.8 mg/L**.

The **Wetmore Cargill Brook** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **< 5mg/L**.

The **Winona Rd Stormdrain** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **11 mg/L**.

The **Mayo Farm Bk** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **< 5 mg/L**.

The **EE Brook** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **12 mg/L**.

The **Inlet** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **13.5 mg/L**.

The **Red Gate Ln Ext** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **18 mg/L**.

The **9 Wall St** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **19 mg/L**.

The **110 Winona Shores Rd** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **16 mg/L**.

The **Condo Retention Basin** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **22 mg/L**.

The **Boat Launch** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **22 mg/L**.

These values are ***much less than*** the state acute and chronic chloride criteria. These stations do not appear to be major contributors of chloride to the lake.

The **Brookside Lane Stream** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **29.5 mg/L**.

The **Hidden Cove Brook** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **47 mg/L**.

The **McNeish Culvert** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **31 mg/L**.

The **Old Province Common** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **257 mg/L**.

The **Carder Lane** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **150 mg/L**.

The **Waukewan St** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **66 mg/L**.

The **Wall St Ext Culvert** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **68 mg/L**.

The **Wall St Culvert 2** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **35 mg/L**.

The **Waukewan Village Condo Culvert** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **59 mg/L**.

The **Robin Way Culvert** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **53 mg/L**.

The **26 Robin Way** was sampled for chloride in 2009. The mean chloride concentration was **45 mg/L**.

These values are ***much less than*** the state acute chloride criteria and mainly ***slightly less than*** the state chronic chloride criteria, and are ***much greater than*** what we would expect to see in undisturbed New Hampshire surface waters.

We recommend that your monitoring group continue to conduct chloride in these tributaries, particularly in the spring, during snow-melt and rain events during the summer. This will establish a baseline of data that will assist your monitoring group and DES to determine lake quality trends in the future.

In addition, if your group is concerned about salt use on a particular roadway, we recommend contacting the town road agent or the Department of Transportation to discuss the implementation of a low-salt area near the lake and/or its major tributaries. We also recommend that your group work with watershed residents to reduce the application of chloride containing de-icing agents to driveways and walkways.

To learn more about conductivity and chloride pollution and what can be done about to minimize it, please refer to the 2004 VLAP Annual Report special topic article, which is posted on the VLAP website at ***http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/vlap/categories/publications.htm****, or contact the VLAP Coordinator.*

Please note that chloride analyses can be run free of charge at the DES Limnology Center. Please contact the VLAP Coordinator if you are interested in chloride monitoring. In addition, it is best to conduct chloride sampling in the spring as the snow is melting and during rain events.

- **Table 14: Current Year Biological and Chemical Raw Data**
  Table 14 in Appendix B lists the most current sampling year results. Since the maximum, minimum, and annual mean values for each parameter are not shown on this table, this table displays the current year "raw," meaning unprocessed, data. The results are sorted by station, depth, and then parameter.

- **Table 15: Station Table**
  As of the spring of 2004, all historical and current year VLAP data are included in the DES Environmental Monitoring Database (EMD). To facilitate the transfer of VLAP data into the EMD, a new station identification system had to be developed. While volunteer monitoring groups can still use the sampling station names that they have used in the past and are most familiar with, an EMD station name also exists for each VLAP sampling location. Table 15 in Appendix B identifies what EMD station name corresponds to the station names you have used in the past and will continue to use in the future.

DATA QUALITY ASSURANCE AND CONTROL

Annual Assessment Audit:

During the annual visit to your lake, the biologist conducted a sampling procedures assessment audit for your monitoring group. Specifically, the biologist observed the performance of your monitoring group and completed an assessment audit sheet to document the volunteer monitors' ability to follow the proper field sampling procedures, as outlined in the VLAP Monitor's Field Manual. This assessment is used to identify any aspects of sample collection in which volunteer monitors failed to follow proper procedures, and also provides an opportunity for the biologist to retrain the volunteer monitors as necessary. This will ultimately ensure samples that the volunteer monitors collect are truly representative of actual lake and tributary conditions.

Overall, your monitoring group did an ***excellent*** job collecting samples on the annual biologist visit this year! Specifically, the members of your monitoring group followed the proper field sampling procedures and there was no need for the biologist to provide additional training. Keep up the good work!

Sample Receipt Checklist:

Each time your monitoring group dropped off samples at the laboratory this summer, the laboratory staff completed a sample receipt checklist to assess and document if your group followed proper sampling techniques when collecting the samples. The purpose of the sample receipt checklist is to minimize, and hopefully eliminate, improper sampling techniques.

Overall, the sample receipt checklist showed that your monitoring group did an ***excellent*** job when collecting samples and submitting them to the laboratory this year! Specifically, the members of your monitoring group followed the proper field sampling procedures and there was no need for the laboratory staff to contact your group with questions, and no samples were rejected for analysis.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Best Management Practices to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution: A Guide for Citizens and Town Officials, DES Booklet WD-03-42, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/wd-03-42.pdf.

Cyanobacteria in New Hampshire Waters Potential Dangers of Blue-Green Algae Blooms, DES fact sheet WMB-10, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/wmb/documents/wmb-10.pdf.

How to Identify Cyanobacteria, DES Pamphlets & Brochures, (603) 271-2975 or http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/cyano_id_flyer.pdf

Low Impact Development Hydrologic Analysis. Manual prepared by Prince George's County, Maryland, Department of Environmental Resources. July 1999. To access this document, visit www.epa.gov/owow/nps/lid_hydr.pdf or call the EPA Water Resource Center at (202) 566-1736.

Low Impact Development: Taking Steps to Protect New Hampshire's Surface Waters, DES fact sheet WD-WMB-17, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/wmb/documents/wmb-17.pdf.

*NH Stormwater Management Manual Volume 1: Stormwater and Antidegradation, DES fact sheet WD-08-20A, (*603) 271-2975 or http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/wd-08-20a.pdf

NH Stormwater Management Manual Volume 2: Post-Construction Best Management Practices Selection and Design, DES fact sheet WD-08-20B, *(*603) 271-2975 or http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/wd-08-20b.pdf

NH Stormwater Management Manual Volume 3: Erosion and Sediment Controls During Construction, DES fact sheet WD-08-20C, *(*603) 271-2975 or http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/wd-08-20c.pdf

Proper Lawn Care In the Protected Shoreland, The Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act, DES fact sheet WD-SP-2, (603) 271-2975 or http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/sp/documents/sp-2.pdf.

Road Salt and Water Quality, DES fact sheet WD-WMB-4, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/wmb/documents/wmb-4.pdf.

Vegetation Maintenance Within the Protected Shoreland, DES fact sheet WD-SP-5, (603) 271-2975 or http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/sp/documents/sp-5.pdf

Watershed Districts and Ordinances, DES fact sheet WD-WMB-16, (603) 271-2975 or www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/wmb/documents/wmb-16.pdf.